

Chapter 6.09

CATS

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6.09.010 Definitions. For the purposes of this chapter:

- A. At Large. Any cat is "at large" when he is off the property of his owner and not under the control of a responsible person.
- B. Department of Agriculture. "Department of Agriculture" means the Department of Agriculture of the State of Illinois.
- C. Cat. "Cat" includes a female as well as a male cat.
- D. Inoculation Against Rabies. "Inoculation against rabies" means the injection, subcutaneously or otherwise, as approved by the Department of Agriculture, of canine anti rabies vaccine

approved by the Department of Agriculture.

E. Inoculation Against Distemper. "Inoculation against distemper" means the injection, subcutaneously or otherwise, as approved by the Department of Agriculture, of canine anti-distemper vaccine approved by the Department of Agriculture

F. Owner. "Owner" means a person having a right of property in a cat. or who keeps or harbors a cat. or who has a cat in his care or who acts as its custodian, or who knowingly permits a cat to remain on or about any premises occupied by him.

G. Restraint. A cat is under "restraint" if he is controlled by leash; at heel beside a responsible person, or obedient to that person's commands; within a vehicle being driven or parked on the streets, or within the property limits of his owner. (Ord. 95-10, 1995)

6.09.020 License required - Fee - Issuance.

A. No cat shall be permitted to be or remain in the city without being licensed as provided in this chapter.

B. Every person, firm or corporation owning or having a right of property in a cat. or who keeps or harbors a cat or has it in his care or acts as its custodian or who knowingly permits a cat to remain on or about any premises occupied by him within the corporate limits of the city shall, after acquiring such cat if not now owned, register the same with the City Clerk and shall pay to the City Clerk, annually, on or before the first day of January of each year, the license fee of five dollars for each sterilized cat and ten dollars for each unsterilized male or female cat.

C. Upon payment of the license fee the animal control officer shall deliver to the owner or keeper a license for each cat so licensed. The license shall be dated and numbered and shall bear the city name, the name and address of the owner of the cat licensed, and a description of the cat indicating its breed, sex, age, color and markings. A duplicate of such license shall be filed with the City Clerk. (Ord. 95-10, 1995)

6.09.030 Inoculation - General requirements. Each calendar year, or at such intervals as may hereafter be

promulgated by the Department of Agriculture, every owner or keeper of a cat four months or more of age shall cause such cat to be inoculated against rabies. Such owner or keeper of such cat shall produce at the request of the Animal Control Officer the license verifying licensure of the cat. (Ord. 95-10, 1995)

6.09.040 Inoculation to be by licensed veterinarian - Certificate of vaccination required. The inoculation of cats required by Section 6.09.030 shall be performed by a veterinarian duly licensed to practice his profession in this state. Upon performing such inoculation, such veterinarian shall issue to the owner or keeper a certificate showing such fact, said certificate bearing a description of the animal and shall also certify to the fact of inoculation against rabies and distemper. The certificate of vaccination by said veterinarian shall be retained so that the same may be made conveniently available for examination by the Animal Control Officer. No license for a cat as provided in this chapter shall issue under this section unless the cat has been vaccinated in accordance with the provisions of this section and the City Clerk or the animal control officer shall treat the certificate of vaccination as conclusive proof of vaccination under this section for the issuance of a license as provided for in this chapter. (Ord. 95-10, 1995)

6.09.050 Inoculation - Expiration date. The inoculation performed under the provisions of Section 6.09.040 shall be effective until the expiration of the calendar year in which the vaccination was performed or the expiration of such period of the Department of Agriculture. (Ord. 95-10, 1995)

6.09.060 Exhibition of vaccination certificate upon request. At any reasonable time, upon request of any member of the police department, the mayor or the animal control officer, the owner or keeper of any cat shall exhibit his certificate, issued under the provisions of Section 6.09.040, showing the inoculation against rabies and distemper of any cat owned or controlled by him. (Ord. 95-10, 1995)

6.09.070 Restraint of cats by owner or keeper. The owner or keeper of a cat shall keep the cat under restraint at all times and shall not permit such cat to be at large, off the premises or the property of the owner or keeper, unless the cat is under complete control as defined in Section 6.09.010. (Ord. 95-10, 1995)

6.09.071 Owner's duties. Each owner shall provide for each of his animals:

- A. Sufficient quantity of good quality, wholesome food and water;
- B. Adequate shelter and protection from the weather;
- C. Veterinary care when needed to prevent suffering; and
- D. Humane care and treatment. (Ord. 95-10, 1995)

6.09.080 City to provide pound. The city shall provide a suitable place for the impounding of cats. (Ord. 95-10, 1995)

6.09.090 Impoundment of cats running at large or unlicensed cats.

A. It shall be the duty of such employees and officers of the city as shall be designated for that purpose by the mayor, to take up and impound, in such place as may be designated and set apart for that purpose, any cat found running at large or unlicensed in the city contrary to any of the provisions of this chapter or other ordinances of the city.

B. When cats are found running at large or unlicensed, any their ownership is known to the designated employees, such cats may be impounded at the discretion of such employees, but the employees shall cite the owner of such cat to answer charges of violation of this chapter. (Ord. 95-10, 1995)

6.09.100 Notice and citation to owner or keeper of impounded cat. In case of impounding, and where the owner or keeper of such cat is disclosed by any tax or license tag worn by it, or is otherwise known to the officers impounding same, the City Clerk or animal control officer shall at once give notice by mail to such owner or keeper, informing him of the impounding of his cat and shall cite the owner or keeper of

such cat to answer charges of violation of this chapter, if the cat bears identification or if the animal control officer can upon reasonable investigation identify the owner of said cat. (Ord. 95-10, 1995)

6.09.110 Redemption of impounded cats.

A. Any cat impounded under the provisions of this chapter, except such as may have bitten any person as specified in Section 6.09.120, shall, unless sooner redeemed, be held for the period of seven days in order to afford opportunity to the owner or keeper thereof to redeem the same. Any such owner or keeper desiring to redeem his impounded cat shall pay an impounding fee of five dollars and also the cost of keeping such cat while impounded.

B. In case such cat has not been inoculated against rabies for the current year, such owner shall also advance the fee required to have such cat inoculated by a duly licensed veterinarian as to have such cat inoculated by a duly licensed veterinarian as he shall elect and the poundkeeper shall forthwith cause the cat to be duly inoculated against rabies. No cat shall be released without having been inoculated for the current calendar year, or in accordance with the requirements of the Department of Agriculture. Upon payment of the required charges, the cat shall thereupon be released to the owner or keeper. (Ord. 95-10, 1995)

6.09.120 Impoundment of cats which have bitten persons.

A. Any cat which has bitten or otherwise injured any person so as to cause an abrasion of the skin shall be immediately taken, impounded and kept separated from other cats for ten days. If during that period such cat develops symptoms of illness, a veterinarian shall be called to diagnose its condition. If the symptoms disclosed are such to indicate the presence of rabies, such cat shall be destroyed, in such manner, however, as to preserve intact the head, which shall thereupon be detached and immediately sent to the diagnostic laboratory of the Department of Agriculture. In case such cat cannot be safely taken up and impounded, it may be shot, care being taken to preserve the head intact which shall thereupon be

immediately detached and be delivered to the diagnostic laboratory of the Department of Agriculture.

B. If, at the expiration of the period often days, no symptoms of rabies have developed in such cat so impounded, the same may be redeemed by the owner upon payment of the redemption fees and charges specified by Section 6.09.110; provided, however, that in case any cat so impounded for biting a person has previously bitten any person, such cat shall be humanely destroyed by the poundkeeper. After having been notified that his cat has bitten or otherwise injured any person, the owner or keeper thereof shall not under any circumstances permit such animal to be at large unless securely muzzled. (Ord. 95-10, 1995)

6.09.130 Disposition of unredeemed cats. Any impounded cat not redeemed within seven days shall be humanely destroyed or otherwise disposed of by the poundkeeper.

6.09.140 Cat traps. A. Residents desiring to register a stray cat complaint shall sign a consent form allowing such animal(s) to be trapped by the animal control officer on the complainant's private property. The animal control warden is authorized to trap stray cats on any public property within the city limits provided said traps present no danger to the public or interference with the property use of the public property. All cats trapped by the animal control officer pursuant to these provisions shall be subject to the provisions of this ordinance regarding impoundment, redemption and humane destruction.

B. It is unlawful for any person to take possession of, destroy or tamper with any cat trap owned by the city. Any person found guilty of taking possession of, destroying or tampering with a city cat trap shall be subject to a fine not less than one hundred and fifty dollars and not more than five hundred dollars. (Ord. 95-10, 1995)

6.09.150 Administration and enforcement. Except as to the regulations concerning inoculation against rabies, the animal control officer is charged with the duty of enforcing the provisions of this section. The animal shelter shall be a

division of the police department; and the animal control officer, and all employees thereof, shall be subject to the supervision of the Chief of Police. Subject to civil service regulations, the mayor shall designate such officers and employees under the supervision of the Chief of Police, including the animal control officer, as may be necessary to enforce the provisions of this chapter. (Ord. 95-10, 1995)

6.09.160 Duties of City Clerk. It shall be the duty of the City Clerk to determine that all fees provided for in this chapter, or otherwise provided by ordinance to be paid, are properly accounted for to the city treasurer; however the City Clerk may delegate such duties to the animal control officer to be performed under the City Clerk's supervision. (Ord. 95-10, 1995)

6.09.170 Penalty for violation. Any owner or keeper of a cat who violates or fails to comply with the provisions of this chapter shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine as provided in Section 1.12.010. The Circuit Clerk or his or her deputies is directed to accept the fine and any costs for the first offense under this chapter which the defendant has been convicted of, as determined by the records of the Circuit Clerk, prior to the date set for appearance in court upon the completion of a written plea of guilt and waiver of trial. (Ord. 95-10, 1995)